

Committee action amended H. Con. Res. 131, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the ocean.

The Subcommittee also held an oversight hearing to review the management of our Nation's fisheries by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Testimony was heard from Rolland Schmitt, Assistant Administrator, Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce.

#### **OVERSIGHT—AFFECT OF INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY AGREEMENTS**

*Committee on Resources:* Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held an oversight hearing on the affect of international forestry agreements on U.S. Forest Service decision-making. Testimony was heard from Rafe Pomerance, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Environment and Development, Department of State; and the following officials of the Forest Service, USDA: Michael Dombeck, Chief; and Valdis Mezainis, Director, Office of International Programs; and public witnesses.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Resources:* Subcommittee on Water and Power approved for full Committee action amended the following measures: H.R. 2400, Water-Related Technical Corrections Act of 1997; and H.R. 1400, Tumalo Irrigation District Water Conservation Project Authorization Act.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 1400 and H.R. 2398, Small Reclamation Water Resources Project Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from a public witness.

#### **CONFERENCE REPORT—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Rules:* Granted a rule that waives all points of order against the conference report to accompany H.R. 2016, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. Testimony was heard from Representatives Packard and Hefner.

#### **PREPARING FOR EL NINO**

*Committee on Science:* Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on Preparing for El Nino. Testimony was heard from J. Michael Hall, Director, Office of Global Programs, NOAA, Department of Commerce; Michael Armstrong, Associate Director, Office of Mitigation, FEMA; I. Miley Gonzalez, Under Secretary, Research, Education and Economics, USDA; Douglas Wheeler, Secretary, State Resources Agency, State of California; and public witnesses.

#### **SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT**

*Committee on Science:* Subcommittee on Technology approved for full Committee action H.R. 2429, to reauthorize the Small Business Technology Transfer Program through fiscal Year 2000.

#### **SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY ASSISTANCE ACT**

*Committee on Small Business:* Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform and Paperwork Reduction and the Subcommittee on Government Programs and Oversight held a joint hearing on H.R. 96, Small Business Regulatory Assistance Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from Representative Solomon; Johnnie Albertson, Associate Administrator, Small Business Development Centers, SBA; and public witnesses.

#### **VETERANS' LEGISLATION**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 2367, Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 1997; H.R. 2206, amended, Veterans Health Programs Improvement Act of 1997; and S. 923, amended, to deny veterans benefits to persons convicted of Federal capital offenses.

#### **NAFTA—ADMINISTRATION'S COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW**

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing on the Administration's comprehensive review of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Testimony was heard from Representatives Levin, Kaptur, Kolbe, Velazquez and Reyes; Jeffrey M. Lang, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative; Jayetta Hecker, Associate Director, International Relations and Trade Issues, National Security and International Affairs Division, GAO; and public witnesses.

#### **SECURITY AND FREEDOM THROUGH ENCRYPTION (SAFE) ACT**

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session and ordered reported amended H.R. 695, Security and Freedom Through Encryption (SAFE) Act.

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#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1997**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

##### **Senate**

*Committee on Foreign Relations,* meeting, to discuss the nomination of William F. Weld, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to Mexico, 11:30 a.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Governmental Affairs*, to hold hearings on S. 981, to provide for the analysis of major regulatory rules by Federal agencies, 9 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, Subcommittee on Immigration, to hold hearings to examine proposals to permanently extend the expiring provision of immigration law which allows religious workers to be sponsored by reli-

gious organizations in the United States, 10 a.m., SD-226.

**House**

*Committee on Government Reform and Oversight*, Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology, oversight hearing on Defense Surplus Property, 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.